

Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121)	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/552,786	DEPERTHES ET AL.
	Examiner JAE W. LEE, PhD	Art Unit 1656

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

The amendment document filed on 12 December 2007 is considered non-compliant because it has failed to meet the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121 or 1.4. In order for the amendment document to be compliant, correction of the following item(s) is required.

THE FOLLOWING MARKED (X) ITEM(S) CAUSE THE AMENDMENT DOCUMENT TO BE NON-COMPLIANT:

- 1. Amendments to the specification:
 - A. Amended paragraph(s) do not include markings.
 - B. New paragraph(s) should not be underlined.
 - C. Other _____.
- 2. Abstract:
 - A. Not presented on a separate sheet. 37 CFR 1.72.
 - B. Other _____.
- 3. Amendments to the drawings:
 - A. The drawings are not properly identified in the top margin as "Replacement Sheet," "New Sheet," or "Annotated Sheet" as required by 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 - B. The practice of submitting proposed drawing correction has been eliminated. Replacement drawings showing amended figures, without markings, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 are required.
 - C. Other _____.
- 4. Amendments to the claims:
 - A. A complete listing of all of the claims is not present.
 - B. The listing of claims does not include the text of all pending claims (including withdrawn claims)
 - C. Each claim has not been provided with the proper status identifier, and as such, the individual status of each claim cannot be identified. Note: the status of every claim must be indicated after its claim number by using one of the following status identifiers: (Original), (Currently amended), (Canceled), (Previously presented), (New), (Not entered), (Withdrawn) and (Withdrawn-currently amended).
 - D. The claims of this amendment paper have not been presented in ascending numerical order.
 - E. Other: See Continuation Sheet.
- 5. Other (e.g., the amendment is unsigned or not signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.4):

For further explanation of the amendment format required by 37 CFR 1.121, see MPEP § 714.

TIME PERIODS FOR FILING A REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

1. Applicant is given **no new time period** if the non-compliant amendment is an after-final amendment or an amendment filed after allowance. If applicant wishes to resubmit the non-compliant after-final amendment with corrections, the **entire corrected amendment** must be resubmitted.
2. Applicant is given **one month**, or thirty (30) days, whichever is longer, from the mail date of this notice to supply the correction, if the non-compliant amendment is one of the following: a preliminary amendment, a non-final amendment (including a submission for a request for continued examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114), a supplemental amendment filed within a suspension period under 37 CFR 1.103(a) or (c), and an amendment filed in response to a Quayle action. If any of above boxes 1. to 4. are checked, the correction required is only the **corrected section** of the non-compliant amendment in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121.

Extensions of time are available under 37 CFR 1.136(a) **only** if the non-compliant amendment is a non-final amendment or an amendment filed in response to a Quayle action.

Failure to timely respond to this notice will result in:

Abandonment of the application if the non-compliant amendment is a non-final amendment or an amendment filed in response to a Quayle action; or

Non-entry of the amendment if the non-compliant amendment is a preliminary amendment or supplemental amendment.

/Richard Hutson/

Legal Instruments Examiner (LIE), if applicable

Telephone No.

Continuation of 4(e) Other: The amendment, filed on 12/12/2007, indicates that Claims 18-30 are canceled. However, Claim 28 is indicated to be "Currently amended" while Claims 29 and 30 are indicated as "Previously presented" (see pg. 5 of the amendment). Given the confusion brought about by Applicants' amendment, it is confusing and unclear as to what Applicants' intent is with respect to Claims 28-30. It is noted by the Examiner that it is critically important for Applicants to set the record straight so that there is no hint of confusion about what Applicants' intent is, especially with respect to the scope and limitation of the claimed invention during future examinations of the claims on the merits. Applicants are directed to 37 CFR § 1.121 (c) (2) for guidance on how to make proper claim amendment. The changes in any amended claim must be shown by underlining (for added matter) or strikethrough (for deleted matter). For deletions of five characters or fewer, double brackets may be used. For strikethrough that cannot be easily perceived, double brackets must be used. As an alternative to using double brackets, extra portions of text may be included before and after text being deleted, all in strikethrough, followed by including and underlining the extra text with the desired change.